

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-20 (canceled).

21 (currently amended). A modularly designed server having a plurality of server modules, each server module of said plurality of ~~server~~ server modules comprising:

at least one data processor that data processes a data packet;

at least one addressable communication interface that connects said server module to a first local network via which the data packet is transmittable; and

a switching interface that connects said server module to a switching device of the modularly designed server to forward the data packet received by the at least one addressable communication interface to a second server module of the modularly designed server connected to a second local network, said switching interface including a routing calculator that calculates an internal server module address using a routing table based upon a utilization level of data processors of said plurality of server modules of the modularly designed server, such that forwarding of the data packet requires no independent router;

wherein one server module of the plurality of server modules is provided as a routing server module that periodically updates the routing table in accordance with evaluated utilization data of other server modules, the routing server module transmitting a current routing table to the other server modules.

22 (currently amended). The modularly designed server of claim 21, wherein the at least one data processor of the server module ~~data processor~~ processes data packets of a particular prescribed application type.

23 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 22, wherein the data packet contains information of a particular prescribed application type, the server module address being calculated in accordance with the particular prescribed application type of the transmitted data packet.

24 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 21, wherein said at least one addressable communication interface includes a buffer that temporarily stores a transmitted data packet.

25 (canceled).

26 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 21, wherein said server module transmits the current routing table to the other server modules near the switching interface.

27 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 26, wherein said server module collects and evaluates data relating to the utilization level of the data processors of all server modules of the modularly designed server.

28 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 27, wherein the server module further updates the routing table on the basis of assigned application types of the other server modules and priority information data for the transmitted data packet.

29 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 21, wherein a data processing process executed within one server module is transmitted to data processors of other server modules when the utilization level of the data processor of a particular server module exceeds a predetermined level.

30 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 21, wherein each server module of said plurality of sever modules are connected together via an internal data bus.

31 (previously presented). The modularly designed server of claim 21, wherein each server module of said plurality of sever modules are connected together via a data line.